

WANT CHICAGO CLUB

American Association Would Change Circuit.

WILL ASK FOR PERMISSION

President O'Brien Appointed Committee of One to Confer with National Commission and Try to Arrange Deal-Little Likelihood of Major Leagues Consenting.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—The American Association of Baseball Clubs has last night on record as favoring a change in its present circuit so that Chicago will have a place on the list.

At the annual meeting at the Auditorium Annex this afternoon it was decided that such a change would be an excellent move, and President J. D. O'Brien, of Milwaukee, was appointed a committee of one to confer with the national commission at its meeting in Cincinnati on January 6 and try to arrange such a deal.

On the surface this looks like a good start for the invaders, but it is really an easy way of letting the association out of a stiff bluff, without admitting that it is retreating. The idea of the national commission considering the proposition was laughed at by President Ben Johnson, of the American League, who declares that a proposition to give up territorial rights in Chicago or any other city must be decided by a vote of the eighteen clubs in the two major leagues.

President Comiskey, of the local American League club, does not think the American Association has any chance of getting permission to put a team in Chicago. President Murphy, of the National League, will not discuss the matter.

Sworn to Secrecy.

Before the meeting was called to order the invading faction did not end of talking. Among other things was the placing of the Louisville team in Cleveland. The talk question was apparently one of the principal topics of conversation at today's meeting, for when the meeting had adjourned mum was the word on every hand. The magnates have decided, not to have sworn solemnly not to tell what it is until after the national commission and the major leagues have given a final answer.

After the meeting was adjourned the magnates made haste to get back to their homes. In answer to the questions as to the latest invasion news, each one refused to talk and referred to President O'Brien as the official talking machine of the association for the next few days.

Outside of the action on the invasion of Chicago, little of interest was done by the association. M. E. Cantillon, of Minneapolis, was elected vice president and George Tebbens was elected as chairman of the board of directors. A schedule committee composed of Thomas Bryce, of Columbus; M. E. Cantillon, of Minneapolis; and George Tebbens, of Kansas City, was appointed on schedule, and instructed to arrange a list of 154 games. The season will start April 15.

To Arrange Schedule. President Johnson has called a meeting of the American League's schedule committee to confer with the National League's committee at Cincinnati on January 7, following the meeting of the national commission in Redland. The absence of John I. Taylor in California makes necessary the appointment of a substitute, and Frank Farrell, of New York, has been named to act with Messrs. Johnson and Hedges for the American in joint session with Messrs. Dreyfuss, Herrmann, and Ebbetts of the National League.

President Murphy, of the Cubs, has written Chairman Herrmann of the national commission, suggesting a rule designed to remove one of the hardships against which minor league club owners complain. That is the traffic in drafted players at a profit to the majors. While the major clubs frequently accept smaller than the market prices for surplus players, there have been instances in which major clubs have held out for more money than they paid for drafted players before returning them to minor clubs. It is Mr. Murphy's belief that the abuse of the draft privilege should not be allowed in that way and that when a drafted player is found to be too inexperienced for fast company, the major league club should be willing to surrender claim to him for what was paid for that claim.

PHILLIES HAVE 14 PITCHERS.

Billy Murray Will Try Out Lot of Twirlers on Southern Trip.

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.—The Phillies do not intend to catch napping next season by a short-handed team, for Manager Billy Murray now has fourteen hurlers under contract and asks him to take them all South with him. Of the fourteen, however, only three seem absolutely certain of their jobs, the trio being Frank Sparks, champion batsman of the National League (reading backward); Charley Brown, and Frank Corridon. Richie, Moren, Covalesske, McQuillen, and Pittenger, holdovers from last season, will make bids for places on the regular staff, but Richie and Pittenger will have to show better form than in 1907 to continue as members of the team.

Murray thinks well of Covalesske, the strapping southpaw picked up in the regions last fall, and also fanatics McQuillen, who twirled sensational ball when he rejoined the Phillies near the end of the season. McQuillen pitched for Murray in Jersey City, where he and Billy knows his worth. Another former Sisker who is to be a Phillie in 1908 is Bill Foxen, a pitcher, but it is a safe bet that if he fails to make good he will not return to Jersey City, for he has in dispute there on account of a fight he had with an umpire in Rochester.

Other minor league twirlers now on the Philadelphia club's roster are Baum, Hoch, and Moser, from the Tri-State, and Wagner and Parkins, from the New York State League.

Want Badgers to Go to Coast.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—The winter crop of reports about things in the rowing line has been enlivened by a brand-new one from the Pacific coast, one that apparently has something behind it, too. The report is that the Pacific coast rowing colleges—Washington, Stanford, and California—want to tear Wisconsin away from its allegiance to the East and form of the four a Western college regatta association. That is the plan in brief, and the Washington Herald has been sent a letter to the Badgers suggesting the scheme and asking whether it would be feasible, and whether the Wisconsin men would be willing to enter into such an agreement.

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YARN BY MORDECAI BROWN.

Enthusiastic Man Would Main Hand to Become Star Pitcher.

From the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. "I've had many peculiar inquiries concerning that missing finger on my pitching hand," Mordecai Brown, the star twirler of the Chicago, said the other morning, "but the strangest of all occurred in the South during our training trip last spring.

"One of the many recruits that President Murphy took on the trip was a twirler by the name of Purdie. He was rather an enigma to the majority of the players, who did not know whether to take his funny little sayings and doings as jokes or whether Purdie really was serious about them.

"One day while we were gathered in the hotel lobby discussing things in general and nothing in particular Purdie came over to me and said:

"Purdie, let me see what's left of that pitching arm of yours."

"I pushed out the maimed hand, and after he had examined it closely he said:

"And do you mean to tell me that you win all your games with your hand in that shape?"

"I confessed that I did.

"Well, I swan," he replied. "And how did you lose the finger?"

"I told him that I had it chopped off a feed cutter, and that the remaining three fingers were broken at the same time.

"Then he deliberately reached down into his pocket, pulled out an indelible pencil, and marked a line across his pitching hand that corresponded to the cut on mine.

"When I get home I'm going to put my hand in a feed cutter, too," he said solemnly, "and maybe I'll get to be a star twirler."

"And when we left him in Nashville the marks were still on his hand."

G. W. U. SECOND IN RIFLE SHOOT

Buff and Blue Marksmen Do Well in Intercollegiate Match.

J. W. Pattison, of Hatchettes, Ties with Columbia Man for High Individual Honors.

Special to The Washington Herald.

New York, Dec. 29.—Columbia won the intercollegiate indoor rifle shoot yesterday at the sportsman's show at Grand Central Palace, scoring 374 out of a possible 400 points. George Washington University was second, with 362 points, and Cornell third, with 367. Five teams competed, and excellent scores were made by all the teams.

The high guns were P. Agremon, of Columbia, and J. W. Pattison, of George Washington, who made 59 out of a possible 60 points. The conditions of the match called for teams of four men, each man firing ten shots offhand and ten shots prone with .22-caliber rifle and one-inch bull's-eye. The scores:

INTERCOLLEGIATE TEAMS.

YALE.

J. Kerr..... 43 43 86
H. Wood..... 45 45 90
E. F. Wood..... 45 45 90
W. R. Wood..... 45 45 90
Totals..... 178 183 361

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY.

C. Thurgood..... 45 45 90
A. R. Calder..... 45 45 90
J. W. Pattison..... 45 45 90
Totals..... 135 135 270

CORNEILL.

Harold Barney..... 45 45 90
J. M. Allen..... 45 45 90
A. M. Allen..... 45 45 90
Totals..... 135 135 270

COLUMBIA.

A. R. Agremon..... 45 45 90
P. Agremon..... 45 45 90
E. Briggs Ribbet..... 45 45 90
Totals..... 135 135 270

CORNELL.

W. R. Wood..... 45 45 90
U. D. Bevin..... 45 45 90
Totals..... 90 90 180

LOST—HOME-RUN BY DAVIS.

Athletes' First Baseman Says He Is Shy One Drive in Averages.

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.—According to Harry Davis, captain of the Athletics, he got the worst of it in the official batting averages of the American League. "Whoot, whoot," he figures for Ban Johnson, "said me out of a home run. Officially I am credited with seven jobs for the circuit, but I made eight, and there was no question about any of them, for each and every smash was over the fence. I made only one home run away from Philadelphia, and that was on our first trip to Boston. City. You know, I was positive I put the ball out of the lot seven times at Columbia Park, and can name the pitchers—Dineen (twice), White, Oberlin, Walsh, Jones and Donovan. I want to have the data right. I shall write to President Johnson and ask him to go over the records and find out whether the mistake is a scorer's or is an error on the part of the person who got up the averages."

NO LACROSSE CHAMPION.

Johns Hopkins and Cornell Fail to Play for Title.

New York, Dec. 29.—At the meeting of the Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association yesterday Cornell made a hard but ineffectual fight to have freshmen excluded from intercollegiate teams. The intercollegiate championship is still undecided, as no provision was made for determining the winner. At the last meeting of the association the colleges were placed in northern and southern divisions, according to their location. Harvard, Columbia, Hobart, Cornell, and Stevens Institute are in the northern division, while Lehigh, Johns Hopkins, and Swarthmore are members of the southern division. Cornell and Johns Hopkins won the respective championships last spring. A motion was made to have the winners play for the championship, but no action was taken on it.

Ball Player to Join Priesthood.

Hazleton, Dec. 29.—Baseball is to lose one of its players in the person of John Burke, of this city, who is to be ordained to the priesthood next April. He is a student of St. Bonaventure College, New York, and during his vacation periods he played professional ball, last year being with the Lancaster Tri-State League team. For two years he had been with the Jersey City team of the Eastern League. He has many offers to join clubs in the National and American Leagues, but will be obliged to ignore them all on account of his coming ordination.

ATTELL IS FAVORITE

American Fighter Picked to Beat Owen Moran.

FOR FEATHER-WEIGHT TITLE

Battle for World's Championship at Colma on Wednesday Afternoon. Englishman Surprises Fight Followers by Announcing that He Weighs Only 121 Pounds.

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—Abe Attell and Owen Moran, the two feather-weights who are to meet at Colma on New Year's afternoon, are both at the required weight, 120 pounds, and the next few days will be spent in light gymnasium work and a short run on the road in the morning.

Moran announced his weight yesterday as 121 pounds, which was a surprise to those who thought the little Briton would find trouble in getting to the 120-pound mark. It was Moran who held out for the weighing-in time to be three hours before the fight, and many of the close followers of the game took it for granted that the climate acted on him as it has done with other newcomers, making it hard for them to do weight.

Moran seemed to be stalling on the weight question when he signed the articles, as he has made the weight without an effort, and yesterday he told the writer he would be stronger than Attell when the bell called them to the center of the ring.

In an hour's stint in the gym, shadow sparring and using the vario machines to keep his muscles limber.

Likes Road Work.

In the morning Moran will take a tangle jaunt on the road with Trainer Willis to keep his wind in perfect condition, and there will be little sparring indulged in from now on. Moran is much opposed to boxing in the gym, as he says there is little for him to learn in that line, and he prefers to spend most of the time on the road, and tossing the medicine ball in the open air.

Charley Harvey, the Eastern sporting man, who brought Moran to America four months ago, left New York Thursday night, and is due to arrive here Monday. Mr. Harvey thinks Moran the best man of his weight, and he has already sent Promoter Coffroth a large commission to bet on the Englishman's chances against Attell. Harvey will be in Moran's corner.

Attell experienced little trouble in getting down to weight, and for the past few days has been weighing in at 120 pounds. Attell is a natural featherweight, and it requires no hard effort for him to keep at the feather-weight limit. At that, Abe is not taking the slightest chances with his condition, as he figures Moran will be the toughest proposition he has met so far.

Attell's brother Monte and Kid Farmer for three rounds each in the afternoon, and then punches the bag for half an hour.

Tip from Attell.

The real road work has been cut out of the daily grind, and the little Hebrew is ready to jump into the ring at a moment's notice. Several of Attell's admirers visited the training camp yesterday, and before leaving Abe tipped them off to have a nice bet down on him New Year's Day.

There was little change in the betting yesterday, several small wagers being made at 10 to 7, with Attell still the choice. One wager was made at Tom Corbett's poolroom of \$100 even that Moran will knock out Attell.

Moran and Attell will set a fast pace from the start, with the Englishman on the aggressive. Attell will most likely stall the early part of the fight and let Moran do the work, thinking he will wear him down the last ten rounds and score a knock-out. Jimmy Coffroth has everything in readiness for the battle, and the Mission street arena has been overhauled and put in top shape for the go.

HATCHETTES FACE YALE.

Meet Eastern Basketball Champions at Convention Hall.

The George Washington basketball team has what is considered the hardest game on its schedule this evening, when it plays Yale, the collegiate champions of the East, at Convention Hall.

The Ells have been on the road since December 2, playing one of the strongest teams in the East, and from their showing, are considered to have an excellent chance for first place in the intercollegiate league.

The Hatchettes have been getting in some hard practice in the Y. M. C. A. gym under the watchful eye of Coach Cramer. The addition of Rutherford to the team adds considerably to its strength, as the quiet now has three veterans, Rutherford, Johnson, and Covel. The game will start at 8:30.

FAMOUS EX-JOCKEY IN TUMBLE

Grover Cleveland Fuller Charged with Forgery in Seattle.

Bellingham, Wash., Dec. 29.—Occupying a cell at the city jail, mingling with the worst class of hobos and petty thieves, is Grover Cleveland Fuller, a young man who, two years ago, told a New York judge he had spent \$250,000 in two years. He was once one of the most famous of American jockeys.

Fuller has been sentenced to serve thirty days for vagrancy, pending an investigation into charges of forgery. He is wanted in Seattle for burglary, or answers pretty close to the description of the man known as "Todd," who is wanted there. Grover made known his identity here this morning, and he was into trouble in Seattle, where he was held for stealing a suit case.

His arrest in this city was a result of an attempt to pass a worthless check. No evidence could be secured in the time allowed, and the box was "vagged" until a complete investigation can be made.

The palmy days of Fuller ended two years ago, when he had a bad fall at Brighton.

MORAN'S RING RECORD.

Owen Moran, who will be Attell's opponent on New Year's Day, was born in Birmingham, England, October 4, 1881. His weight is 120 pounds, his height, five feet four inches. The following record includes sixty-one fights, his most important engagements. Moran has fought in something like seventy fights, and in a large percentage of these has scored knockouts. He has lost two decisions in his career, and once to Joe Barker and twice to Tiger Stanley. He has never been knocked out.

OTHER CLUBS ENTER FIELD

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New York, Dec. 29.—It has been announced that Saratoga and Providence will meet after the national regatta for 1908, and it is said also that the New York delegates would favor Saratoga Lake, and that the New England men will be for Providence.

According to this report the Bostonians want the national regatta in 1902, and therefore will endeavor to make a trade of the New England support this time in view of their plans for the year ahead. Furthermore, the Southern clubs, according to the same report, are to line up for Providence out of feelings of gratitude for past courtesies. That leaves Philadelphia as a sort of keystone block for the whole battle, and what the Philadelphians say is supposed to be going to settle the whole argument.

Think Matter Decided.

As a matter of fact, it has not entered the head of any one who is seriously thinking of regatta dates that any place except Philadelphia is going to get the regatta for 1908, 1909, and any other years that may be thought of. The Schuylkill is the place for the regatta for any one of a dozen considerations, and it would not take much to influence a decision. Even if there were any line-up about the matter, it is safe to say that New York and Philadelphia would be in favor of the Schuylkill, and it is known absolutely where the Southerners stand. The Baltimore, Virginia, and Washington clubs are for Philadelphia first of all. The chief reason is that the Schuylkill Navy and the Southern clubs have a sort of tacit agreement that they will interchange influence in bringing the national regatta to Philadelphia, and the Middle States to the Potomac.

Even if Philadelphia should not care for the national regatta this coming season, which is a conceded impossibility, the Washingtonians would be for the New York selection. As far as gratitude is concerned, they figure that the loyal support they have received from New York clubs in the past five or six years is worth more than anything the New England crews ever have done. Harleim clubs in great numbers have helped out the entry list in regattas on the Potomac, and figuring on these, the Potomac oarsmen have not the least idea of swinging for Providence for any regatta.

Fair to All Crews.

The Schuylkill is an excellent course. It is fit to go all over, and the biggest consideration is that the railroads make some concessions to the oarsmen. It is easy to get shells to the Schuylkill course, and there is accommodation along the course for any number of visiting clubs. The Harleim has not these advantages, and the local oarsmen are free to admit that. So far as the Potomac and no blow to local pride to say that Philadelphia is the ideal place for the national regatta. New York doesn't want the date any more than every few years, and it wouldn't hurt any one to have the races go every year to Philadelphia.

BASEBALL NOTES.

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Magnate Herrmann, of the Reds, has now decided to postpone the naming of a manager until after the meeting of the national commission, on January 6. John Ganszel is having a long wait for the position.

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The latter has been in the starting of the training season and join the other battery men at French Lick.

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Mathewson will not join the Giants at Marlin Springs until about the second week in March. He will not be through coaching West Point until the first week in March. Matty will not be up by steamboat to Galveston. He has been advised that the sea voyage will do him a lot of good.

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SCHUYLKILL IN FAVOR

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OUTLAWS IN RICHMOND?

Option Has Been Obtained on Park for Union League.